Training Academy the initial provision of Rs. 1 (one) crore had been raised approximately by five times.

Review of IRDP

2720. SHRI N. DENNIS : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the functioning of the I.R.D.P.; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government for the effective functioning of I.R.D.P.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) and (b) The implementation of the Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) has been reviewed from time to time. As part of this exercise and at the instance of the Government of India, the Reserve Bank of India had constituted a High Power Expert Committee on IRDP under the Chairmanship of Shri D.R. Mehta, former Deputy Governor of Reserve Bank of India on 29.9.1993. The Committee reviewed the programme and recommended suitable measures so as to make it a more effective instrument of poverty alleviation.

In pursuance to the recommendations of the Expert Committee on IRDP, the following steps have been taken by the Government/RBI for the effective implementation of IRDP.

1. Fixation of higher per family investment targets.
2. Measures to mobilise additional credit through fixation of credit targets.
3. Introduction of a new category of beneficiaries compoising educated unemployed trained youth for whom a higher subsidy limit of Rs. 7500/- has been fixed.
4. Enhancement of the ceiling limit for expenditure on infrastructure from the present 10% to 20% (25% in case of North-Eastern States and Sikkim) and decentralisation of powers to sanction such expenditure.
5. Introduction of a back-ended system of subsidy with a view to minimising leakages associated with front-end susbsidy.
6. Extension of Cash Disbursement scheme in 50% of the blocks of the country. It has now been decided to extend the scheme to all the blocks in the country.
7. Enhancement of the subsidy limit for group activities to Rs. 1.25 lakhs per group or 50% of the project cost, whichever is less.
8. Insistence on greater participation of Gram Sabhas in the selection of beneficiaries to ensure transparency and objectivity in the selection procedure.
9. Extension of the Family Credit plan in 217 districts of the country with a view to encouraging higher levels of investment per family. It is proposed to extend it further to an additional 100 districts during 1997-98.

Cases with CBI

2721. DR. Y.S. RAJASEKHARA REDDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of cases pending before the CBI as on February 1, 1997;

(b) the number of cases referred by the Central Government, State Governments and Courts, separately;

(c) whether it has enough personnel to cope up with the work entrusted to it; and

(d) the name of countries where the prime investigating agency enjoys the status of an autonomous and independent organisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) There are 1601 cases pending investigation as on 1.2.1997 with CBI.

(b) Out of (a) above, 310 cases were referred by the Central/State Govts./UT/Court. The break up of these cases are as under :

Cases referred by	No. of cases
Central Government	18
State Govts.	71
Union Territory	1
Supreme Court	62
High Courts	145
Other Courts	13
	310

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The status of investigating agency of each country and the extent of autonomy enjoyed by it is determined by local laws of the country concerned. In India CBI enjoys functional autonomy in the matter of investigations under the provisions of Delhi Special Police Establishment Act, 1946.

Allocation of Fuel

2722. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Keral has asked for